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Speed limit down on west-end hood's residential streets

metroNEWS

HALEY RITCHIE/METRO

Airport kiosks launched without independent review

FACIAL RECOGNITION

Agencies didn't wait for privacy commissioner to weigh in

Dylan C. Robertson
For Metro | Ottawa

New facial-recognition kiosks at the Ottawa airport were launched Monday without an independent privacy evaluation, Metro has learned, sparking outcry from a leading civil-rights group.

Last fall, the immigration department and Canada Border Services Agency met with the federal privacy commissioner to discuss a "biometric expansion project" that included the new Primary Inspection Kiosks, which scan travellers' faces to verify they match passport photographs.

At that time, the commissioner noted the need for a Privacy Impact Assessment (PIA), according to spokeswoman Anne-Marie Cenaiko.

Federal departments are required to complete PIAs to identify potential privacy risks for new programs, along with how they plan to reduce them. The privacy commissioner doesn't approve or reject the PIAs, but his staff often make recommendations.

The Treasury Board's PIA directive instructs departments to ensure "that privacy implications will be appropriately identified, assessed and resolved before a new or substantially modified program or activity involving personal information is implemented."

But in an email, Cenaiko said the commissioner was still studying the PIA when the kiosks launched Monday. "We received the PIA at the beginning of March and are currently in the process of reviewing it," she wrote.

That means there's been no independent look at how much data is collected, how securely it's stored or deleted, and whether it will be shared.

Micheal Vonn, policy director for the BC Civil Liberties Association, said she was alarmed by CBSA announcing the kiosks publicly before submitting a PIA.

"It certainly erodes any trust that we should have that these programs are being properly vetted with privacy expertise before they're released," she said.

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metro NEWS

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Raise our taxes! Wealthy New Yorkers want to pay more to the government. **World**

INFRASTRUCTURE

Bridge, dam work a year away

Plans for a major rehabilitation of the Hog's Back Bridge and dam are moving ahead, but it's still at least another year before construction gets underway.

The government put a tender out for engineering work earlier this week after first announcing the project in 2015, but it could still be some time before work is underway.

"At the very earliest, construction could begin in early 2018; however the project could also begin in 2019 or later," said Darryl Whitehead, a spokesperson for Parks Canada.

He said they're hoping to minimize the traffic disruption when the time comes to begin construction, but part of the reason behind the engineering work the province is tendering for is about getting those answers.

"Once further details are available and a better estimate on scheduling can be made, Parks Canada will provide an update to residents."

The bridge was originally built in 1977 and is rated by the government in poor condition. The proposed work is going to replace the bridge deck and railings and aims to bring it to a good condition.

The dam below is also getting work done, but not as extensive.

"It would require a large-scale investment. You would almost have to replace the dam," he said, adding the work they have planned will be enough to give the dam many more years.

"It would extend the life of the dam until a point where it has to be fully rebuilt."

RYAN TUMILTY/METRO

Advocates applaud federal report on gender violence

GOVERNMENT

Committee outlines plan calling for more training, data

Ryan Tumilty
Metro | Ottawa

Advocates are applauding a parliamentary report aimed at reducing domestic violence and sexual assault.

Tabled Monday by the House committee on the Status of Women, the report calls for better training for police and judges, better data on the issue and more assault centres on university campuses.

In all, it contains 45 recommendations. The committee looked at the issue on university campuses, on the internet and in the justice system.

Pam Damoff, Liberal MP for Oakville North-Burlington and vice-chair of the committee, said sexual violence is a major issue with a lot of problems to solve.

"It was a huge study, each one of these topics could have warranted a study on its own," she said.

The committee recommended better data collection, including having Statistics Canada collect information on sex-assault complaints that police deem unfounded for lack of evidence.

The agency stopped collecting such data from police departments after raising concerns that officers were not using the category accurately.

Erin Leigh, executive director of the Ottawa Coalition to End Violence against Women, said that's an important step, but the government has to ensure that officers are not just entering the data correctly but also treating victims right.

> If you compare what we recommended to what is in their mandate letters there is a lot of crossover. Erin Leigh

"It isn't just a data question. It is not just a clerical exercise of making sure you're coding right. It's making sure the response is right," she said.

Leigh said overall the report is making a lot of good recommendations. She said she is hopeful that the government will follow up on the report.

"I think our prime minister, different ministers have expressed a deep commitment," she said.

LABOUR PICKETING TRANSIT WORKERS TAKE IT ONE DAY AT A TIME Gatineau transit workers picket outside the STO maintenance yard on Tuesday. The union is enacting rotating one-day strikes to put pressure on the employer to agree to arbitration.

HALEY RITCHIE/METRO

Green light for low speeds

TRAFFIC

Hintonburg gets approval to slow drivers on side streets

Haley Ritchie
Metro | Ottawa

Hold your horses in Hintonburg — the local community association has received approval to lower the default speed limit on side streets from 50 km/h to 40 km/h as a safety measure.

"We have narrow streets in Hintonburg, streets that were designed for horses, not for cars," said Dickson Davidson, who visited neighbours door-to-door as the association's chair of traffic concerns.

"We have a lot of one-way streets in the area, especially in the north. It becomes pretty sketchy sometimes when you're out with your kids and someone is barrelling down the street," he said.

"People do find drivers cutting through very quickly, especially during rush hour when people are trying to cut around the traffic."

Hintonburg residents had called for side-street speed limits to be reduced. HALEY RITCHIE/METRO

Davidson, along with volunteers with the Hintonburg Community Association, has been collecting signatures for over a year. In order to make the change, at least 66 per cent of residents on each street were required to support it.

> **It becomes pretty sketchy sometimes.**
> Dickson Davidson

The petition now has the names of 1,286 residences from 31 residential streets. Having reached the required amount of signatures, the petition was dropped off earlier this month.

A car travelling at a slower speed decreases the risk of serious injury in the case of a collision with a pedestrian.

Davidson said the new default speed limit won't impact main commercial streets, including Parkdale Avenue, Wellington Street West and Gladstone Avenue. Instead, the new limit is supposed to slow down cars travelling on quieter residential streets.

"It'll bring a greater awareness that this is a residential area, not a vacant area or a place where people don't care," said Davidson. "Pedestrians, cyclists; it should help pretty much everybody."

Currently most streets in the neighbourhood don't have posted limits, but are set at the default speed of 50 km per hour.

Davidson said the signs will remind people to travel slower on residential streets, but the signs will encourage even persistent speeders to travel 50 km/h instead of 60 km/h.

The new signage is expected to be installed sometime in May, followed by monitoring and enforcement.

Ottawa DIGEST

SAFETY

Overnight fires

Ottawa firefighters were called to two fires overnight Tuesday that sent two people to hospital.

Firefighters arrived just after 10 p.m. to a house on Crystal Beach Drive after getting a call about smoke coming from the house.

Two people who had already fled the building were taken to hospital with minor injuries.

The second call came in just after 4 a.m. Tuesday morning as a garage at 2520 Leitrim Road was on fire.

A passerby woke the homeowners and got them out of the house safely.

RYAN TUMILTY/METRO

WEATHER

Chilly start

While Spring is officially upon us, it appears no one has told winter it has to leave.

Ottawa Public Health issued a frostbite alert for Wednesday morning with an expected -28C chill.

At that temperature, frostbite can occur quickly and people are warned to cover up.

RYAN TUMILTY/METRO

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Few Liberal measures for the middle class have done much for the middle class.

It would be nice if Wednesday's budget offered some real change for Canadians

ANALYSIS

Paul Wells
Torstar News Service

Wednesday's budget will be about the middle class and innovation. Maybe it'll even be helpful! That would be nice. Unfortunately, the Trudeau government's handling of both files so far has left them in something close to a shambles.

I wrote after Social Development Minister Jean-Yves Duclos gave a presentation about "The State of the Middle Class." I was probably too kind.

When a tenured academic turned senior cabinet minister delivers a presentation on the middle class that (a) never defines the term "middle class"; (b) never depicts the effects of the government's actions to date on the plight of the middle class, however you want to define it; (c) offers no hint about future efforts to help the middle class — well, that's a fiasco.

The Liberals used to promise that Canadians would be able to track their own progress, using large numbers of publicly available indicators, on marvellous websites that would be part of a governing philosophy called "deliverology." These days, we get Duclos telling us how polls say we feel.

But let no one criticize any Liberal emphasis on feelings. Bloomberg put the question to Bill Morneau, the finance minister, this week, and he was staunch in defending a politics of mood.

"We look at what's gone on around the world" (translator's note: this is every western politician's preferred euphemism for the election of Donald Trump) "is there anybody who questions that we should be focused on how people feel?" Morneau asked. "What are the outcomes if we don't? So I think we're going to stay on that message."

OK then. I feel worried when I read Duclos's former colleague, the Université Laval economist Stephen Gordon, pointing out in the National Post what the NDP has been saying all along: that few Liberal measures for the middle class have done much for the middle class. Take what Justin Trudeau likes to call his "middle-class tax cut." Says Gordon: "The tax cut for the median tax filer — someone reporting total income somewhere around $45,000 — is either negligible or non-existent." But if you make triple that income, you get the maximum tax benefit.

I feel like maybe we should move on to innovation. This government is the first with a minister for innovation! He's Navdeep Bains. He frequently posts photos of his meetings on Twitter, with the hashtag "#innovation."

A year and a half after he became the minister for #innovation, it's not clear what Bains's plans are. It's pretty clear that within the government he has less than complete control over #innovation.

Whatever Bains proposes, it will have company. Kevin Page, the former Parliamentary Budget Officer who now runs a policy shop at the University of Ottawa, found that there are already 147 programs and tax credits, worth a combined $22.6 billion, designed to spur #innovation. That's right now. Today. Already. The accumulated detritus of every former government.

National digest

Number of asylum claimants significantly higher

There were four times more asylum claimants arriving at land border crossings than at airports in the first two months of 2017, new Canadian data show.

In January and February, a total of 525 air travellers — 400 in Ontario, 90 in Quebec, 35 in B.C. and nine in Alberta — sought asylum upon arrival at airports, said the Canada Border Services Agency. By contrast, 2,145 people crossed at land border ports of entry and made refugee claims during the same period, including 1,085 in Quebec, 905 in Ontario, 80 in Manitoba, and 35 each in Alberta and B.C. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Funeral held for slain boy

As police scour the country for an Ontario man accused of killing his seven-year-old stepson, the child's family is preparing to lay him to rest.

The family of Nathan Dumas says the boy's funeral will be held on Friday not far from his home in St. Catharines, Ont. THE CANADIAN PRESS

GLOBAL DIGEST TAXES, IMMIGRANTS, A TURTLE AND BEES

Tax us more, the rich say
Some of the wealthiest New Yorkers are asking the state to raise their taxes.

Eighty people including George Soros, Steven Rockefeller and Abigail Disney wrote to lawmakers and Gov. Andrew Cuomo saying they and other top earners should pay more to support schools, roads, bridges and programs to help poor and homeless residents of the state. AP

L.A. expands protections
Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti expanded protections for immigrants who are in the United States illegally, emphasizing the city's refusal to help enforce the Trump administration's immigration rackdown.

An executive directive asks officials to follow the Police Department's longtime policy of not investigating individuals to determine their immigration status. AP

'Piggy bank' turtle dies
Tourists used to toss coins at a green sea turtle that lived in a pond in eastern Thailand, wishing for luck and longevity.

But swallowing the shiny tidbits turned out to be a death sentence for the reptile.

After having nearly a thousand coins removed from its stomach two weeks ago, the turtle — nicknamed "Omsin," or "Piggy Bank," — died Tuesday. AP

Bumblebee joins endangered species
The rusty patched bumblebee on Tuesday became the first officially endangered bee species in the continental U.S.
Its listing as an endangered species means the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will devise a plan for returning the imperiled bee to "a healthy and secure condition," the U.S. Department of Interior said. AP

U.S. and British governments are barring passengers on some flights from mostly Middle Eastern and North African countries from bringing laptops, and other devices in carry-ons. AP

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Laptop ban questioned

AIR TRAVEL

Reasons for latest change will likely never be public

You can thank Richard Reid, a.k.a. the failed "shoe bomber," every time you remove your footwear at airport security checks. The "underwear bomber" is why you have to rub your pants and get your palms swabbed for explosive residue. Limited liquid? A failed 2006 transatlantic aircraft plot.

But passengers, irate passengers, who will soon be barred from bringing laptops on their lengthy flights to the U.S. or U.K., will probably not be given a simple answer as to why. Flights to Canada may also soon be affected.

News of the surprise travel restriction began spreading Monday night and came into effect in the U.S. early Tuesday. Passengers travelling direct from eight mainly Middle Eastern countries to the U.S. will be forbidden from carrying on electronics larger than a cellphone. Airlines were told they have 96 hours to comply. By Tuesday afternoon, Britain said they were implementing similar restrictions on six countries in North Africa and the Middle East.

Federal Transport Minister Marc Garneau also said Tuesday that Canada may follow the lead of the U.S. and Britain in relation to unspecified security threats.

According to U.S. reports, the new measure is not based on any specific threat or being implemented as one of the reactive security measures that have become common in the past 15 years after failed attacks.

Which leaves many to ask not only why but what are the actual security benefits?

"We don't know what the cause is. We don't know what the reason is. We don't know what is going on," said Bruce Schneier, a security technologist and fellow at Berkman Center.

As the story spread, so did the skepticism. A New York Times report Tuesday stated that the new measure "was not based on any specific or credible threat of an imminent attack."

The TSA statement was vague, saying that the measure was based on "evaluated intelligence."

Clint Watts, a former FBI agent and fellow at the Foreign Policy Research Institute, said the measures prompt many questions if based on new information: Is the U.S. more concerned about manually detonated devices; do they believe the affected airports cannot adequately detect explosives; are laptop explosives in cargo holds insufficient for bringing down aircraft?

The only known attack using a laptop occurred over a year ago in Mogadishu. The East African Al Qaeda affiliate, Al Shabab, claimed responsibility for the bomb on board a Daallo Airlines flight, which blew a hole in the fuselage, sucking out the suspected bomber. The passenger jet was forced to make an emergency landing, but none of the other passengers were injured.

"I don't understand the impetus behind doing this right now," Watts. "Maybe it's justified, but beyond the bomb on the Somali flight, why now if there is no credible intelligence?"

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

IN CANADA

If Ottawa does not issue a similar ban, Canadian airports are bound to get busier as passengers decide to bypass the hassle of U.S. travel. Emirates Airlines and Turkish and EgyptAir, among other airliners have frequent direct flights to Canadian cities.

metro VIEWS
Your essential daily news

PHILOSOPHER CAT by Jason Logan

JESSICA ALLEN ON CONSPIRACY THEORIES

'I obviously don't believe in conspiracy theories — OK, except for this one really awesome one.'

Here is a truncated list of things that, if you believe them, will make me take you less seriously: the Earth is flat, vaccinations are a government plot and Barack Obama wiretapped Trump Tower.

Conspiracy theories conform to fit personal ideologies: look at all the permutations of 9/11 narratives. We're predisposed to believe what we want to believe; only in the past, you had to work to confirm those beliefs — like reading all 888 pages of the Warren Report. Now, you just have to search, click and watch.

Except for me, because I obviously don't believe in conspiracy theories — OK, except for this one really awesome one: Donald Trump is in cahoots with a Russian oligarch who goes by the nickname "the fertilizer king."

Dmitry Rybolovlev, who made his billions selling potash, was tied up in the most expensive divorce in modern history, bought a house from Will Smith, a Greek island and an estate in Palm Beach, Florida — from Trump.

I know all of this because I've fallen down a Rybolovlev rabbit hole, for which I blame Rachel Maddow. The MSNBC host has been trying to connect the dots between Trump, Rybolovlev and U.S. Secretary of Commerce Wilbur Ross.

So Shaq is pretty sure the Earth is flat. Who among us can resist a juicy conspiracy theory? asks Jessica Allen. AP

Long story short, as told by Maddow: Trump sold the Palm Beach mansion to the Russian for $50 million US more than he'd paid for it just four years earlier. The sale came as Rybolovlev was embroiled in divorce proceedings, and Trump owed millions to Deutsche Bank, which was fined for money laundering $10 billion, some of which belonged to Putin family members. When the CEO of Deutsche Bank stepped down post-scandal, he went to the Bank of Cyprus. Guess who once owned a stake in the Bank of Cyprus? Rybolovlev. Guess who was once vice chairman of the Bank of Cyprus? Wilbur Ross. Boom!

But this line of logic led Sonny Bunch in a Washington Post column to compare Maddow to the Oliver Stone character X, played by Kiefer Sutherland, in the film JFK.

"This is how conspiracy theorists operate," he said. "Bury your opponent in an avalanche of facts and suggest there's some secret connecting them all together, a Rosetta Stone you're on the verge of deciphering."

I feel confident I'm becoming my worst nightmare.

We are living in a world that doesn't make sense. Maybe every age says this, but ours has actually been dubbed the "post-truth age."

Jonathan Vance, a University of Western Ontario history professor who specializes in panic and paranoia, theorized to the Canadian Press that "we think that our society is so developed that bad things shouldn't happen." So when they do occur, we seek scapegoats. Conspiracies.

There is a glimmer of hope, though from an unlikely place: Trump. In his war on the mainstream media, he has boosted the subscription numbers of the "failing" New York Times. That he might inadvertently be the saviour of newspapers in America is almost enough to make you believe anything.

Jessica Allen is the digital correspondent on CTV's The Social.

Budget should support private refugee sponsors

Vicky Mochama
Metro | Toronto

The decades-old private sponsorship program is unique in both form and tradition.

But without sufficient resources, the agency that manages it is struggling with a backlog of potential sponsors and leaving Canada in danger of breaking its global promise.

As the federal budget comes down in Ottawa, this should be a top priority.

The global migrant crisis is, with or without our help, finding a way into our country. While the right and humane thing is for Canada to match rhetoric with policy, there is one more reason to spend the money to clear the backlog: private sponsorship works.

Speaking in front of the Commons immigration committee Monday, Minister Ahmed Hussen said 53 per cent of privately sponsored refugees had found full-time employment. For government-sponsored refugees that number is 10 per cent, he said.

Supported by the community around them, refugees are finding jobs faster than those assisted mostly by bureaucrats and agencies. The private sponsorship system allows families and community groups to pool their will, compassion and resources to help.

There are approximately 6,000 such sponsors awaiting approval by the federal government to be matched with a refugee family.

It thus came as a surprise to many families, churches, businesses and community groups to find that in mid-December, the department of citizenship and immigration quietly put a cap of 1,000 on the number of new applicants looking to sponsor Syrian and Iraqi refugees in 2017.

The change to the private sponsorship system for Syrian and Iraqi refugees was meant to ease the backlog in processing applications. Months later, the backlog persists.

At the same time that the Immigration and Refugee Board is battling a stack of applications, the government has increased the overall number of privately sponsored refugees that it plans to allow this year from elsewhere in the world. This year, Canada is planning for a high of 19,000 privately sponsored refugees.

The agency anticipates the situation will deteriorate. It foresees as many as 30,000 claims languishing. Wait times, which refugees and their advocates say are already lengthy, will double.

Speaking to The Canadian Press, the chairman of the IRB was frank, saying, "Efficiency has increased significantly, but there is no way we can deal with 30,000 cases when we're funded for about 17,000."

Supported and embraced, refugee families are integrating. Canadian communities have shown that they are willing to do their part.

The private sponsorship system is a workable extension of the generosity we proclaim. It's time for Ottawa to put the money in and figure it out.

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YouTube pledges to stop filtering videos with LGBTQ themes as "restricted"

Why frozen is the new fresh

FOOD TRENDS

Our false idea of 'freshness' causes too much waste

Genna Buck
Metro | Toronto

When Karyl Agana looks in her home freezer, only one thing belongs to her: A package of salmon.

Like so many self-described foodies, the 28-year-old finance assistant prefers to buy nearly all her fruits, vegetables and meats fresh.

"I enjoy food a lot," she said. "I go out looking for great tasting food. And I make it look pleasing."

Agana aims to make four beautiful meals a week; sourcing ingredients from her Toronto neighbourhood's abundance of grocery stores and ethnic markets.

But inevitably, some of it gets wasted: About once a month, she goes through her fridge and throws away a full grocery bag of spoiled produce. And she's never been one to cook and freeze for later — she said she has nothing against it; it's just not what she grew up doing.

She's far from alone. According to Tammara Soma, who studies food waste at the University of Toronto's Food Systems Lab, Canadians spend a collective $107 billion per year on food that never gets eaten, including the cost of fuel and water.

Why? Because, she said, we're obsessed with a false ideal of freshness.

"We're so detached. We've lost that whole connection between production, processing and consumption," Soma said. "We gravitate toward the idea of freshness to become comfortable with the unknowns. Fresh means healthy, fresh means good."

Meanwhile, frozen food gets a bad rap it doesn't deserve. It's picked at peak season and preserved right away, unlike, say, grocery-store bananas, which are picked green, stored for many days, shipped across the world and ripened with ethylene gas, Soma said.

"The idea that they're fresh is quite a paradox," she added. "Fresh is a marketing concept."

And our obsession with it is costing us. The typical North American fridge (unlike European fridges, which are a bit smaller) is an "enabler as a food waste," Soma said. "We stock it up and forget about it. We buy doubles of the same thing. It's a compost bin."

But the freezer is a powerful weapon against waste. Take herbs, for example: Most people buy a huge bunch but only use a few leaves, leaving the rest to rot.

> **I enjoy food a lot. I go out looking for great tasting food. And I make it look pleasing.**
> Foodie but non-freezer Karyl Agana

Tammara Soma. CONTRIBUTED

Soma recommends pureeing them with olive oil and freezing them in ice-cube trays for an instant way to perk up pasta dishes and soups.

Sure, frozen fruits and vegetables can be a bit watery and mushy, which grosses some people out. But in things like soups and smoothies, you'll hardly notice.

"The more standards imposed on the food, the more opportunities there are for it to be wasted," Soma said. "It's time to implement a new measure of freshness that's simple: 'Does it smell good? Does it look edible?'"

FREEZE TO THE MAX EXPERT TIPS

Leanne Brown, author of Good and Cheap, a cookbook designed to help people on public assistance make cheap, nutritious meals gives her top tips:

Buy frozen and canned in the off-season
"You might think fresh is best, but for flavour reasons and cost reasons, pay attention to season. Fresh tomatoes right now are basically trash."

Compare prices in-store
Food prices fluctuate. "It would be nice if there were set rules; if canned and frozen were always cheaper. They're often not."

Cook and freeze a staple
"It's as simple as making a big pot of a really inexpensive staple like beans or lentils and having that be the centre of a taco meal, and then as a side another night."

Don't use your freezer as a dumping ground
"I've made too large a portion of something and I'm sick of it. Usually it is going to the freezer to die. Label it when you put it in there."

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SKIP THIS

Pastene Plain Bread Crumbs (per ½ cup)

Calories 220
Fat 3g
Sodium 800mg

HERE'S WHY

Equivalent to 4 slices of Primo Vegetarian pizza from Panago in sodium.

Panko and bread crumbs are interchangeable in cooking. However, panko has a flakier, more delicate texture and is made predominantly from white bread crumbs without the crust. Regular bread crumbs can come from a variety of breads and have a finer texture. While they are fairly similar in terms of calories and fat, these plain bread crumbs have an excessive amount of sodium compared to the panko. Add an extra crunch to your dishes with panko and save on sodium!

Say it ain't dough: raw treat is a risk

FOOD SAFETY

Sweet trend is hot right now but cold batter can do damage

Genna Buck
Metro | Toronto

It's every kid's dream: Licking gooey, sugary cookie dough straight off the spoon or beater.

But beware: Trendy restaurants and cafés serving raw cookie dough could be doling out a dangerous dose of harmful bacteria as well. Uncooked or undercooked eggs could be contaminated with salmonella, and E. coli outbreaks have been linked to the consumption of raw flour, too.

So ask about safety before indulging in the nostalgia-fuelled cookie dough craze. Toronto's Junked Food Co., which started scooping cones of cookie dough earlier this month — and is already going through 600 pounds of the sweet stuff every weekend — uses only pasteurized eggs and heats the flour to 160 C to kill any harmful bugs that might be lurking, co-owner Brian McKilligan said.

If you want to be super-safe, the lemon flavour is totally egg-free.

The restaurant also has pints of dough available to take away — so there is the option to, you know, actually bake it and make cookies.

Junked Food Co. in Toronto went through pounds of cookie dough this month, serving it like ice cream, in what's being dubbed a new dessert craze. INSTAGRAM/JUNKEDFOODCO

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Bloomberg reports Porsche averaged $17,250 in profit on every car sold in 2016

Finally, an affordable electric

HANDOUT

REVIEW

A low range almost doesn't factor at this price point

Dan Ilika
AutoGuide.com

It's unlikely this is what Hyundai had in mind for the media drive of the all-new Ioniq Electric, the brand's first real attempt at breaking into the slow-selling EV market.

What this entails is an unexpected bout of unseasonably bad weather in Kelowna, B.C. It's not unrealistic to expect temperatures around 8 C this time of year in the Okanagan Valley; instead it's about –5 C and snowing, with some freezing rain mixed in. This poses obvious problems.

Cold weather is the enemy of electric vehicles. From its effects on the battery to the additional energy needed to run the car's climate control system, range is reduced in a big way when the mercury plunges. Yet here we are, ready to set out on a journey intended to cover about 113 kilometres, or a little more than half the estimated range of the Ioniq Electric. Only our tester isn't showing anywhere near the range the car is capable of despite efforts to top up the charge.

Packing a 28-kWh battery, the Hyundai Ioniq Electric is good for an estimated 200 km of driving. That's barely better than the aging Nissan Leaf (172 km), which was introduced way back in 2010, and almost half the range of the all-new Chevrolet Bolt (383 km), though the Bolt's battery boasts twice the capacity.

Setting out for our drive from a snow-covered parking lot, the car's estimated range of about 169 km is looming.

Parlaying power from the battery to the front wheels is an electric motor and a single-speed reduction gear transmission, while a set of regenerative brakes can send energy back to the battery. While the Ioniq Electric is hampered somewhat by the additional heft of its beefy battery, the torque from the electric motor helps to disguise it and makes the car feel nimble.

While it tends to float over uneven pavement like an old Lincoln thanks to its low center of gravity created by the battery, the car features taut and responsive steering that's superior to its gas-electric sibling, the Ioniq Hybrid. It isn't, however, quite as sure-footed on slippery surfaces.

The Ioniq Electric may not compare to the likes of the Chevy Bolt — or the pending Tesla Model 3 — when it comes to range, but it has it beat when it comes to price. Base models are expected to start at $35,000, with a fully loaded version to cost somewhere in the neighborhood of $42,000. That poses an interesting value proposition when compared to virtually other EVs on the market.

Ending our drive, our tester is still showing nearly 80 km of range remaining — a feat. Hyundai's first all-electric offering impresses, even with the cold winter weather rearing its efficiency-sapping head.

THE CHECKLIST | 2017 HYUNDAI IONIQ ELECTRIC REVIEW

THE BASICS

Engine: Single motor drive unit
Output: 120 horsepower, 215 pound-feet of torque
Transmission: Single-speed reduction gear
Battery size: 28 kWh
Estimated range: 200 kilometres
Price: Starts at $35,000 (est.) (before available incentives)

LOVE IT

- Familiar driving feel
- Cabin layout
- Competitive pricing

LEAVE IT

- Quirky design
- Relatively small battery
- Adjustable brake regeneration

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SL model shown*

SR model shown*

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Platinum model shown*

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Outdated technology inspiring innovation

HYUNDAI

Patent filed for innovative three-cylinder engine

Jason Siu
AutoGuide.com

The Korean automaker has plans for a combined-cycle combustion engine that will improve fuel efficiency. HANDOUT

Hyundai has filed a patent for a three-cylinder engine with some very interesting technology.

The patent application was filed on November 30, 2015 but was published on March 16, 2017. In it, the Korean automaker details a three-cylinder engine where two of the cylinders perform four-cycle combustion while the remaining cylinder is two-cycle combustion. Essentially it's a combined-cycle combustion engine in hopes of improving fuel efficiency, among other things.

"However, since the three-cylinder engine has structural characteristics in which bores, strokes, and valve timings of the respective cylinders are equal to one another, the engine generates noise and vibration compared to typical four or more cylinder engines," the patent application says. "To resolve this, it is necessary to devise a design technique for three-cylinder engines in which a three-cylinder engine combines a four-cycle with a two-cycle. In addition, since engine performance (for example, power and torque) is deteriorated when this combined cycle engine is controlled, merchantable quality of the engine may be lowered."

It appears Hyundai is looking to solve the deterioration by combining two- and four-cycle cylinders. Since the bore, stroke and valve timing of the two-cycle cylinder can differ from the four-cycle cylinder, the same power is generated in the two- and four-cycle cylinders, preventing engine performance from dropping when the three-cylinder engine is operated under the combined cycles. It also maintains the advantages of a three-cylinder engine, mainly its compact structure and high fuel efficiency.

Expect to see more three-cylinder engines being developed by automakers in the coming years. The new Ford Fiesta ST for example, uses a three-cylinder EcoBoost engine to generate 200 horsepower and 214 pound-feet of torque.

NO FUN

Report confirms car buyers are boring

Dan Ilika
AutoGuide.com

White has been the best selling shade since 2011 and last year it accounted for 37 per cent of vehicle sales globally. ISTOCK

Apparently the auto market is increasingly looking like an eight-bit greyscale, with the vast majority of new vehicles sold these days finished in a less-than-exciting quartet of colours.

That's according to a report from paint supplier Axalta, which found that an astonishing 77 per cent of cars, trucks and SUVs sold in 2016 were finished in white, silver, grey and black. If there ever was a barometer of just how boring car-buyers have become this is it.

White led the way at 37 per cent of global sales, trailed by black at 18 per cent. Grey and silver followed at 11 per cent each. Worse still, 2016 marked the sixth consecutive year white was the No. 1 seller, which overtook silver in 2011. Line them all up and it's like our parking lots are stuck in the movie Pleasantville. (If you understand this obscure reference then you will understand how sad the situation is.)

The picture is a slightly less bleak one in North America, with red (10 per cent) and blue (eight per cent) adding a splash of colour to the mix, though white, black, grey and silver still led the way on the continent by a landslide.

There is, however, some reprieve on the horizon. Axalta says "colourful hues are tinting traditional neutral colors" to bring colour back into vogue. Here's to a slightly darker shade of burnt orange coming soon to a dealer near you.

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Examples: $30,000 financed at 0% for 36/72 months equals 78/156 bi-weekly payments of $385/$192, a total obligation of $30,000 and $0 cost of financing. ◊$5,000 in Total Discounts is available on 2017 Jeep Patriot High Altitude 4x4 (23G) and consists of $4,500 in Consumer Cash and $500 Jeep Loyalty/Conquest Bonus Cash. See your retailer for complete details. ††1.49% purchase financing for up to 96 months available on select new 2017 models through RBC, Scotiabank and TD Auto Finance. Retailer order/trade may be necessary. Examples: 2017 Jeep Cherokee North FWD (24J)/2017 Jeep Grand Cherokee Laredo (32E) with a Purchase Price of $31,980/$41,054 with a $0 down payment, financed at 1.49% for 96 months equals 416 weekly payments of $82/$99 with a cost of borrowing of $1,948.44/$2,376.45 and a total obligation of $33,928.44/$41,381.45. ‡3.49% purchase financing for up to 96 months available on select new 2017 models through RBC, Scotiabank and TD Auto Finance. 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Bonus Cash is deducted after taxes. ≈Non-prime financing available on select models on approved credit. 4.99%/6.99% financing available on select 2017 models. Financing examples: Purchase Price of $30,000 with a $1,000 down payment, financed at 4.99%/6.99% over 84 months, equals 182 bi-weekly payments of $189/$202 with a cost of borrowing of $5,418.76/$7,753.86 and a total finance obligation of $34,418.76/$36,753.86. Some conditions apply. See your retailer for complete details. §Starting From Prices for vehicles shown include Consumer Cash discounts and do not include upgrades (e.g., paint). Upgrades available for additional cost. Certain features of vehicles shown – e.g., interior colour – may not be offered on all models. See retailer for details. [1]Based on WardsAuto Middle Cross Utility segmentation. Best-in-class capability based on Jeep Cherokee offering 2 speed power transfer unit (PTU) with rear locking axle, exclusive Jeep Selec-Terrain with 5 settings (including rock), and industry first: fully disconnecting drive-line, best-in-class towing (excluding 7-8 passenger vehicles), approach angle, departure angle, ramp breakover angle. [2]Jeep Grand Cherokee has received more awards over its lifetime than any other SUV. [3]Capability based on approach angle, departure angle, breakover angle, ground clearance and water fording. [4]Based on WardsAuto Sport and Cross Utility segmentations and MSRP of base models. [5]Most Capable Compact SUV Ever is based on historical U.S. unibody C-SUV segment competitors as identified by 2016 CY WardsAuto Small Cross/Utility Vehicle SUV segment (years 1985-2017). 4x4 capability based on Jeep Compact SUV offering low range power transfer unit (PTU) with 20:1 crawl ratio, low range 4x4 capability. This claim excludes all FCA vehicles. ΔBased on total sales in 2015CY in all SUV segments combined as defined by FCA Canada Inc. *Jeep is a registered trademark of FCA US LLC used under license by FCA Canada Inc. ™The SiriusXM logo is a registered trademark of SiriusXM Satellite Radio Inc.

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metro SPORTS

"The Giants will always be my family": Barry Bonds is back with San Francisco as a special adviser

Hart-racing shift

Sidney Crosby and Connor McDavid looked to be running away from the pack in the Hart Trophy race at mid-season but, since then, a flood of worthy contenders has emerged. Here is a look at the now crowded field:

1 Sidney Crosby

He's No. 1 in points-per-game and clinched his first 40-goal season since 2009-10. He's right there in the thick of the race for the Rocket Richard and Art Ross trophies despite a nearly two-week absence to start the season.

2 Connor McDavid

He's only 20, in his second NHL season and already an MVP candidate. The Oilers' captain has had a hand in roughly 40 per cent of his club's offence, leads the NHL in assists and is a favourite to win the scoring title.

3 Patrick Kane

He's not producing at last year's MVP pace — 46 goals and 106 points — but has been pretty close to it in the past couple months, collecting 20 goals and 30 points between Feb. 1 and Tuesday. The NHL hasn't had a repeat MVP winner since Alex Ovechkin (2008, 2009).

4 Evgeni Malkin

Second to only Crosby in points-per-game, Malkin is headed for his biggest season offensively since 2011-12 when he won the Art Ross and Hart trophies by posting 50 goals and 109 points.

5 Brad Marchand

No one had more goals or points since the beginning of December heading into Monday's action, making the 28-year-old from Hammonds Plains, N.S., a viable threat to win both the Art Ross and Rocket Richard.

THE CANADIAN PRESS/
PHOTOS BY GETTY IMAGES

6 Brent Burns

Burns is tracking toward one of the more electric seasons from a defenceman ever. He has an outside shot at joining Paul Coffey, Bobby Orr, Ray Bourque, Denis Potvin and Doug Wilson (his GM in San Jose) as the only blue-liners to crack 30 goals and 80 points.

7 Erik Karlsson

Ottawa's captain is tiptoeing back into the Hart race with maybe the most well-rounded season of his career. Karlsson is pretty close to a point-per-game again despite a drop in ice-time while leading the league in blocked shots.

CURLING

Homan dialed in for two more wins

Canada is on the verge of clinching a playoff spot at the world women's curling championship after a pair of victories on Tuesday.

Ottawa's Rachel Homan defeated South Korea's EunJung Kim 9-8 before dumping Scotland's Eve Muirhead 8-2 in evening play at the Capital Gymnasium. The Canadian team improved to 7-0 in round-robin play.

"We're happy with that performance," said second Joanne Courtney after beating Scotland. "I think we got a good handle on the ice early and it was nice to play a couple open ends to get to feel comfortable and when we had our opportunities, we were able to capitalize."

Homan threw at 96 per cent while Muirhead finished at just 71 per cent. Scotland conceded the game after seven ends.

> **There's lots of parts of the game that we're looking at and trying to improve.**
> Rachel Homan

"It's easy to maintain the focus because there are so many good teams here and you have to be on your 'A' game no matter who you're playing," Homan said.

Sweden's Anna Hasselborg was alone in second place at 6-1 after a 9-4 victory over defending champion Alina Paetz of Switzerland, who fell to 4-3.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

IN BRIEF

Decorated Canadian swimmer Cochrane retires

Two-time Olympic medallist Ryan Cochrane announced his retirement from swimming on Tuesday.

Cochrane won Olympic silver in the 1,500 metres in 2012 in London and bronze in 2008 in Beijing. He finished sixth in the distance in Rio.

The 28-year-old from Victoria also collected a total of eight world championship medals, the most by a Canadian.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Suspect in theft of Brady jersey bragged about swag

The Mexican media executive suspected of stealing Tom Brady's jersey went to the Super Bowl as a working journalist but spent the week collecting selfies and autographs from football greats — and boasting that he was there purely as a fan.

Martin Mauricio Ortega, former director of La Prensa, has been identified as the target of a warrant that resulted in the recovery of the Brady jersey on March 12.

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MAKE IT TONIGHT

Refreshing Green Goddess Salad

PHOTO: MAYA VISNYEI

Ceri Marsh & Laura Keogh
For Metro Canada

The play of creamy and crunchy in this salad makes it irresistible. And its green freshness is almost enough to remind us that spring is coming.

Ready in 15 minutes
Cook time: 5 minutes
Serves 2

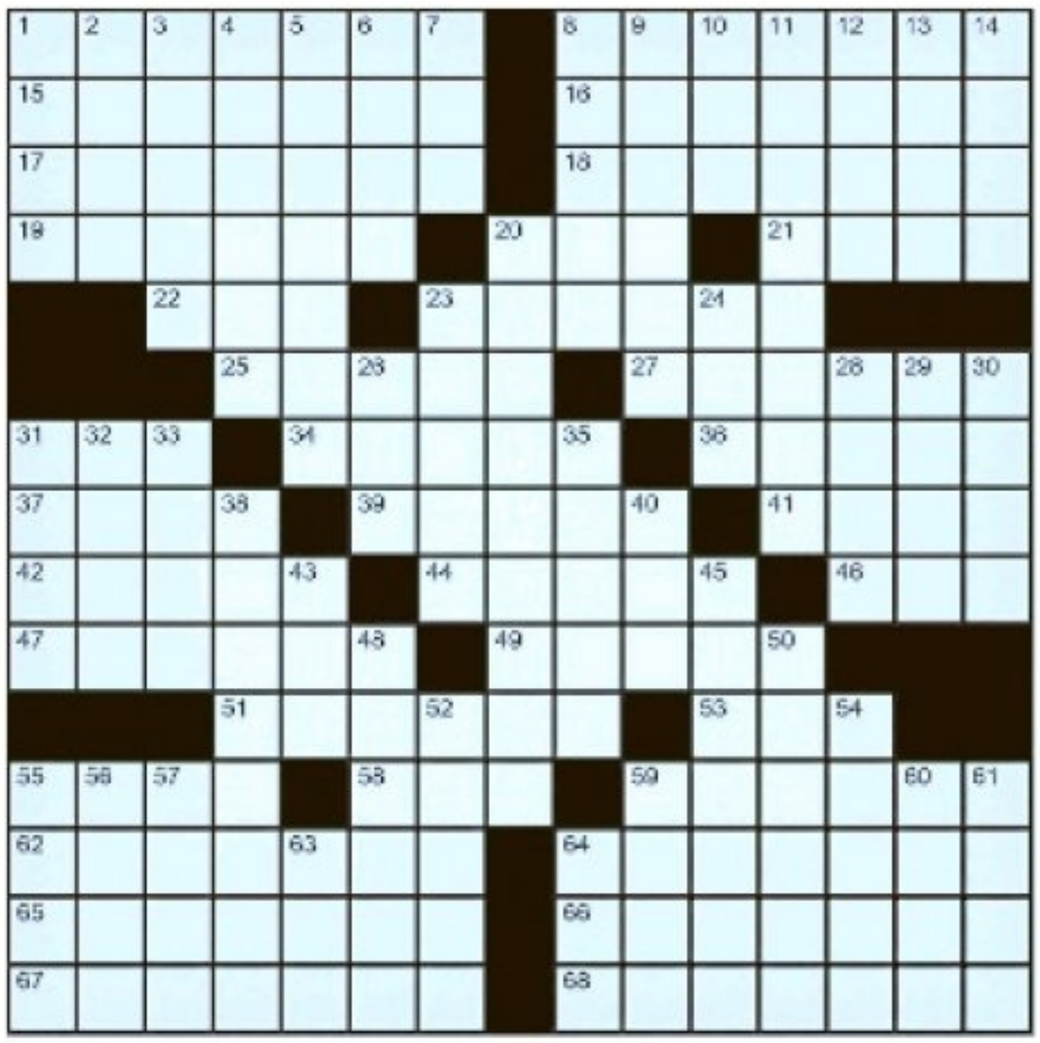
Ingredients
- 1/2 avocado
- 3/4 cup buttermilk
- 2 Tbsp chives, basil (you could use tarragon, dill, parsley, etc)
- 3 tsp white wine vinegar
- 1 tsp anchovy paste
- 1 cup scallions
- 6 or 7 stalks of asparagus, trimmed
- 2 or 3 handfuls of Boston or Bibb lettuce
- 1/2 avocado, cubed
- 1/2 English cucumber, sliced
- 1 handful of cherry tomatoes
- 1/4 cup feta cheese, crumbled

Directions
1. Place the first six ingredients in a blender and whiz away. Have a taste and see if it needs a bit more buttermilk to thin it out or a splash more vinegar to brighten it up.
2. Cook the asparagus in simmering water for 3 to 5 minutes until just tender. Plunge them into ice water to stop them from over cooking. Then drain and chop into bite-sized pieces.
3. Wash and dry all of your other veggies. Tear and arrange your lettuce on a large platter or on each plate.
4. Top with avocado, asparagus, cucumber, tomato.
5. Dress your salad and then top with feta.

FOR MORE MEAL IDEAS, VISIT SWEETPOTATOCHRONICLES.COM

CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



ACROSS
1. 'CANADA' as opposed to 'Canada': 2 wds.
8. Range out West
15. "Yeah, right."
16. Hospital attendant
17. Living-forever being
18. Contempt
19. "I Will Survive" by Gloria __
20. Tarte, in Toronto
21. Trait carrier
22. Snugly-secluded spot
23. Cute little fish of freshwaters
25. Energize
27. Make a mistake: 2 wds.
31. Dry, like champagne
34. Pour __ troubled waters
36. Vista
37. Hamlet genre, for short
39. Home furnishings, wallpaper, etc.
41. Prince Harry's sister-in-law
42. Heron variety
44. Beiges
46. Roman sun god
47. Inert
49. Be born as a baby bird
51. Lake __ (1980 Winter Olympics site)
53. '_' __ in Halifax
55. Competent
58. "The Man __ Fell to Earth" (1976)
59. The __ Union
62. It flows in the direction the wind is blowing: 2 wds.
64. Alleviate
65. Grunge rock city in Washington state
66. Vitamin C sources
67. Going-against person
68. Financial field fusions

DOWN
1. Prepare for the trip, pack __
2. Priest of Tibet
3. Architect, Frank __ Wright
4. Mr. Wilde of "The Walls of Jericho" (1948)
5. Melanie's lasered-off tattoo
6. Seckel is a sort
7. Canadian hockey great Mr. Apps
8. Sculptor of The Thinker
9. Get one's bearings
10. DVD-looking items
11. Appalachian Mountains village in New Brunswick
12. Latin hymn, with 'Dies'
13. Tiger Wood's ex-wife
14. Since, in ye olden days
20. The National Ballet of Canada's current production about a famous marionette ...more at #38-Down!
23. Skirmish
24. Alternatives
26. Singer's clip on MuchMusic, for short
28. __ and carrots
29. Do __ others...
30. Apple part
31. Proofer's term
32. Therefore
33. Victoria-born painter Emily
35. U.S.-Canadian airspace protection org.
38. Lumberjack in the show at #20-Down which offers a Canuck spin on the classic tale
40. Groove
43. Pop group, '__ Tuesday
45. Rhodes student at Oxford
48. Dilly-dally
50. 1974: "(You're) __ My Baby" by Paul Anka
52. Jolliness
54. Warfare takeover
55. In addition
56. Horn's honk!
57. Spring
59. Bone-dry
60. Of all time
61. "Guarding __" (1994)
63. The current US President's oldest daughter ...her initials-sharers
64. Movie genre, __-com

IT'S ALL IN THE STARS Your daily horoscope by Francis Drake

Aries March 21 - April 20
During conversations with bosses and VIPs today, don't volunteer for anything. Also, don't agree to anything important. (This is for your own protection.)

Taurus April 21 - May 21
Although you are interested in travel plans right now, do not make those plans today. Whatever you start today probably will have to be changed later.

Gemini May 22 - June 21
This is a good day for important discussions, especially about shared property, inheritances or decisions about how to divide something. Postpone these discussions until Friday. (You will be glad you did.)

Cancer June 22 - July 23
When talking to close friends and partners today, keep things light. This is not a good day to make agreements. Things are just too fuzzy.

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
Just maintain your usual pace at work today and don't try anything new. Do not volunteer for anything or suggest improvements. Wait until Friday to do this.

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
This is a wonderfully creative day for your sign, because your imagination is free-floating! If you work in the arts or in the entertainment world, you will have great ideas

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
This is the perfect day for hiding at home and relaxing. Do not shop for anything other than food or gas. Just take it easy.

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
This is a great day to schmooze and talk to others, because you feel friendly and lighthearted. Enjoy these discussions, but avoid important decisions.

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
This is a poor day for any kind of financial negotiation. Don't spend money professionally. And when it comes to personal spending, spend money on food or gas only.

Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
Today the Moon is in your sign, but it's in a hazy placement. In fact, it's a goofy day that is great for creativity and socializing, but not serious business.

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
You will enjoy being by yourself today, especially if you can find solitude in beautiful surroundings. Basically, it's hard to get really serious about anything.

Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
This is a great day to talk to others, especially a female companion. Share your hopes and dreams for the future to see what others say.

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9

8			7			9		
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				1	5			2
7				4		1		
	1	3				8	2	
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9			1	8				
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		6			3			5

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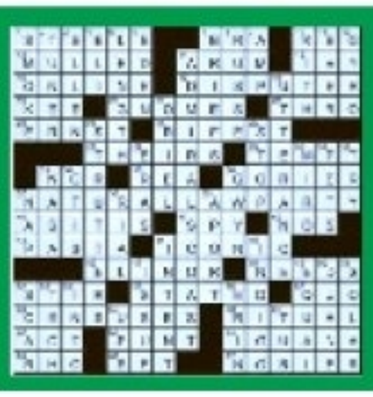
YESTERDAY'S ANSWERS

Your daily crossword and Sudoku answers from the play page.

for more fun and games go to metronews.ca/games



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9	1	2	8	4	3	5	6	7
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1	9	8	3	2	4	7	5	6
5	2	4	6	1	7	9	3	8
7	4	9	5	3	1	6	8	2
3	6	5	7	8	2	4	1	9
2	8	1	4	6	9	3	7	5

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